

SENATE BILL 1532

By Beavers

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8,
Chapter 14 and Title 9, Chapter 4, relative to
assistant district public defenders.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-14-207(b), is amended by deleting subsection (3) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(3) The executive director of the Tennessee district public defenders conference shall certify the entry level of compensation awarded to assistant district public defenders based on prior service credits. Assistant district public defenders shall be entitled to prior service credits as follows:

(A) Any assistant district public defender who has prior experience as an assistant district public defender, an assistant district attorney general, a district public defender, a district attorney general, a criminal investigator for the district public defenders, a criminal investigator for the district attorneys general, a United States attorney, an assistant United States attorney, an assistant attorney general representing the state in criminal litigation, an elected judge of a court that had criminal jurisdiction, an attorney that served as a law clerk for an appellate or trial judge of a court with criminal jurisdiction or an attorney who as a commissioned officer worked as a military attorney in the field of criminal defense or criminal prosecution while on full-time active duty in the judge advocate general's corps of any of the armed services of the United States, shall be eligible to receive year-for-year credit upon the recommendation of the hiring district public defender, and subject to the approval of the executive committee of the Tennessee district public defenders conference.

(B) The executive director of the Tennessee district public defenders conference may certify prior service credits for prior practice of law but not exceeding the assistant's experience as a licensed practicing attorney and, in no case, shall year-for-year credit exceed seven (7) years.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007, the public welfare requiring it.